Scheme for Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) in the area of Electronics, ICT and Management : The scheme aims to assist institutions of higher learning (IITs, IIMs, IIITs and NITs) to strengthen their Technology Incubation Centres and thus enable young entrepreneurs to initiate technology start up companies for commercial exploitation of technologies developed by them.

Shares of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited

†1100. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to sell its shares in Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

No-service zone in border areas

†1101. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the area covered under 'No-Service Zone' at the borders presently and in the past;

(b) whether it is a fact that the terrorists and smugglers at particular are taking advantage of availability of mobile services alongwith the international border; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The word "No Service Zone" was introduced *vide* amendment to relevant license condition of mobile service providers on 26th February, 2007. The area covered in "No Service Zone" was 500 Meter width along International Borders. Subsequently, *vide* amendment dated 11th July, 2008; the "Non Service Zone" restriction has been removed.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Merger of ITI units with BSNL

1102. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has rejected Government's proposal for merging the ITI units with BSNL; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal of the Government for merger of ITI with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL). However, on receipt of various representations form Members of Parliament and Unions/Associations of ITI Ltd., the matter was taken up with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. who have opined against the merger for synergetic, operational and financial reasons.

Computers in the post offices of Rajasthan

†1103. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of computers installed in the country particularly in the post offices of Rajasthan during the last three years, location-wise; and

(b) the names of the places in the State of Rajasthan where computers are proposed to be installed during the year 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During the years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, the number of computers installed in the Post Offices across the country was 33027. In 2007-08, 4397 more computers were installed in the Post Offices across the country. In the State of Rajasthan the number of Computers installed during the last three years *i.e.* 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, location-wise is given in the Statement-I (*See* below)

(b) The names and location of Post Offices in Rajasthan for installation of computers in 2008-09 is given in Statement-II.

Statement—I

Number of Computers installed in Rajasthan during the last there years
(2005-2008)

List of Post offices in Rajasthan Circle computerized during 2005-06

Sl. No.	Name of Computerised Post Office	Name of District	No. of computers Supplied
1	2	3	4
1.	G.C. Road	Ajmer	4
2.	Pushkar	Ajmer	3

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.